

## CONGRESSIONAL POINTERS.

The five youngest members of the house of representatives in Washington are Benton Lee French, Idaho's one member, the baby of the house, who has just turned his twenty-eighth year; Morris Sheppard, of the First Texas district, three months older than French; Frederick Landis, of the Eleventh Indiana, aged 30; Asbury Francis Lever, Seventh South Carolina, not yet 29, and Thomas William Hardwick, Tenth Georgia, who has yet to see his thirty-first year.

Representative W. A. Jones, of Virginia, things he has the prize constituent of all the millions of constituents whose members sit in the national house. This constituent does not beseege his member with impossible requests or with any kind of requests, but as soon as the Virginian gets settled in his Washington home dispatches by the Washington boat a barrel of prime eastern shore potatoes. "I am waiting," says Mr. Jones, "to hear of a more obliging constituent than mine. You know eastern shore potatoes are the best that ever grew in the ground."

An old friend walked into the room of the committee on appropriations in the house and said to "Uncle Joe" Cannon, who was there waiting to be surprised by the news that he had been elected speaker. "I came in to pay my last farewell to Joe Cannon." "What's the matter?" asked Cannon. "Going away or going to die?" "Neither; but in a few minutes it will be Speaker Cannon and I am afraid that will be the end of 'Uncle Joe'." "Don't you believe it," Cannon replied, warmly. "Of course, I'll be the speaker when I am in there, but there'll be plenty of times when I'll be plain Joe Cannon."

John Shary Williams, of Mississippi, the newly elected leader of the democrats in the house of representatives, was asked how he would keep the democrats in line if they should become obstreperous. "Easiest thing in the world," Mr. Williams replied. "I shall be prepared for any emergency, like a justice of the peace down in my country when he was called on by a gathering of citizens who had it in mind to hang a man without due process of law. The justice appeared with a copy of the statutes of Mississippi under one arm and a repeating rifle under the other. 'Gentlemen,' he said, 'I am the servant of the people. I can apply the law to the great state of Mississippi to this case or I can help you shoot the culprit—just as you elect.'"

## QUILL POINTS.

Two-thirds of the historic and scientific books printed in France are exported.

It cost \$230,000 to print the last annual report of the secretary of agriculture, which makes it the most costly governmental publication in the world. Snead Cox, who is to write a biography of Cardinal Vaughan, finds that the cardinal kept a full diary. Probably few men in the world as prominent as was Cardinal Vaughan write daily in their little books.

It is interesting to find that Mr. Stewart White, as well as Mr. Kipling and the late Frank Stockton, finds it hard to understand his publisher's classification of some of his work as juveniles. He says he does not consider The Magic Forest any more a book for children than The Jungle books.

The Civics club, of Newark, N. J., is moving for a public fountain in Military park as a memorial to the late Thomas Dunn English, chiefly known as the writer of "Ben Bolt"—in which, by the way, he took little pride and was vexed when Du Maurier resuscitated the forgotten song for his Tribby.

Once more are friends of the late W. E. H. Lecky busy denying the curious and unfounded legend that the eminent historian did most of his work while lying in bed, using a pillow for a desk. The story also has it that an invariable item in his hotel bills was a charge for sheets and counterpanes ruined by ink.

## CULINARY WISDOM.

Pastry should be cooled off in a warm room; taking it suddenly from the oven to a cold larder will make it heavy.

If celery is called for in a stew or soup recipe and is not available, use instead a small quantity of celery seed, which gives a very pleasant flavor.

Boil small potatoes in their skins. When cooked, remove the skin by rubbing in a cloth, drop into boiling fat to brown quickly. Drain and serve at once.

A pinch of powdered gum arabic sifted with a little of the sugar put into cream before whipping, hastens the process and makes the cream hold the air longer.

When making beef tea never add the salt till the meat has been cooking for some time. Salt acts upon the fiber and prevents it giving out all its nourishing properties.

A plain rice pudding, the variety that is made with rice and milk and without eggs, is much improved if a cupful of almond meats, blanched and chopped very fine, is put in to be cooked with the pudding.

## CROWNING FEATURES.

Italian plumes are rich arrangements in coque feathers.

Pheasant feathers are still among the favored hat trimmings.

Fifty yards of ribbon (No. 7) are required to make a flat-iron turban of ribbon loops.

Coque-feather pompons are as smart as coque-feather plumes are graceful.—Philadelphia Record.

The poke bonnet is more like a big, rolling brim turban tied down than it is like the scoop of 1880.

Ring shirrings distinguish the upper parts of the long strings which hang at the backs of some of the new director's hats.

## SALT AS A FERTILIZER.

Has Curious Quality of Promoting Growth of Some Plants and Hindering Others.

The action of salt, or chloride of sodium, as a fertilizer is sometimes very peculiar by reason of its apparently inconsistent influences. It has the effect of checking vegetable growth and at the same time increasing the yield of wheat and other crops to which it is suited, says the Southern Farm Magazine.

Mangel wurzel, beans, cabbages and onions flourish with liberal supplies of salt. It is also highly advantageous to the growth of asparagus. It is found in every cultivated plant, and, therefore, may be considered, in small quantities, as generally desirable for all crops. Lands which are near the seacoast are always liberally supplied with this ingredient by winds, which carry it from the sea.

According to Henry Tanner, of the royal agricultural college in England, one of the most important influences that salt exerts on vegetation is due to its power to check plant growth, possibly arising from the action of the chlorine which it contains. This is a very important factor in agriculture, and when fully understood will be more generally utilized. In the case, for instance, of a wheat crop upon land that has been too highly manured, the tendency is to produce straw rather than grain, the grassy character of the plant being unduly encouraged.

## VAGARIES OF WATCHES.

Vital Energies of Timepieces Like Those of Human Beings at Low Ebb at Night.

"You know that the vital energies are at lower ebb at night than in the daytime," said an old watchmaker. "Would you believe that some watches—especially the cheaper ones—are similarly affected?"

"You know a good watchmaker always wants several days in which to regulate a timepiece. That is because the only way to regulate it properly is to compare it with a chronometer at the same hour every day. Otherwise the variations in the speed of the watch will baffle his efforts."

"The man to whom I was apprenticed told me this, and I thought the idea absurd. We were working late one night, and he called my attention to a lot of watches we had regulated and ready to deliver. It was near midnight and every watch was slow. The better watches had lagged behind some seconds. The cheaper watches were a minute or more out of the way. Next morning every one of the lot was exactly right."

"The fact is, you can regulate a watch to make exactly 24 hours a day, but you can't persuade it to make just 60 minutes in each of the 24 hours. Why this is no one can tell."

## OUR WONDERFUL AGE.

Steam and Electricity Have Combined to Turn Us Into a Race of Globe-Trotters.

The human race, they tell us, has been on earth at least 300,000 years. Until within the last 100 practically no gain was made as to the ease or rapidity with which one might journey from one place to another. Abraham could travel as fast as Arthur Young. Indeed, the modernness of our present methods comes over me with great impressiveness when I recall the fact that I can remember the days of the "Pony Express."

But steam and electricity have revolutionized the world. Combined with human curiosity and the love of adventure, they have turned us into a race of globe-trotters. It is interesting to notice how soon the most startling changes and the most wonderful inventions become commonplace to us. The son of the man who contentedly took a week to get from Boston to Washington now finds himself perhaps profanely impatient if a train is an hour late, or he has to wait five minutes to get the use of a telephone.—From "The Influence of Travel," by Minot J. Savage, in Four-Track News for November.

## CATTLE STEALING.

Ingenious Rustlers a Source of Immense Trouble to Cattlemen of West and Southwest.

One source of immense trouble to the cattlemen has been the calf thief, says Leslie's Monthly. Many a large "outfit" has gone out of business on account of the "rustler." Where cow herders have to ride the range for 50 or 75 miles they are likely to be forestalled in branding a calf by some vigilant rustler whose little mountain ranch is near the usual grazing place of a bunch of cattle. Or very possibly the puncher for the big 3C ranch has caught and branded the calf with its proper mark; and when many months later he rides on a yearling branded BOB he has no means of knowing that the owner of the latter brand has deftly touched up the 3C with a running iron by the artistic addition of two strokes and an added letter. I may be stated parenthetically in passing that more than one large "outfit" of to-day got its start entirely from "rustled" cattle. In the more arid southwest rustling is not so common, because most of the water is pumped, and cattle get in the habit of coming home often to drink and can be watched more closely; but even there it is a factor of no slight importance.

## Queer Monument.

The citizens of Altenburg (Germany) have erected a monument in honor of "skat," which is a German variation of whist. The monument consists of a column painted with diamonds, hearts, spades and clubs.

## SUICIDE MADE EASY.

Despondent Norwegian Took His Own Life by Simple Method of Refusing to Breathe.

That it is possible to commit suicide by simply holding one's breath has been clearly proved by a despondent Norwegian, who recently killed himself in this very unusual manner. When he determined to die he closed his mouth and nostrils and by mere force of will prevented his lungs from doing their proper work.

This case is the more remarkable, says the New York Herald, as there has long been a popular notion that no human being could by mere will power stop the action of the lungs for more than one or two minutes. For this reason it has attracted much attention, and a French writer, commenting on it, says:

"To persons of good taste who are weary of life this method of committing suicide will certainly commend itself, one reason being because the body is not disfigured thereby, and another because the act can be committed in any place and at any time. It is true that sensitive or nervous persons will never be able to kill themselves in this manner, for, simple as it seems, the act of retaining one's breath until death comes can only be performed by one who is either unusually phlegmatic or endowed with a very strong will."

## KNOW LITTLE OF AMERICA.

Canadian Resents Official English Ignorance of Canada and Cites Lord Roberts' Report.

May I be permitted, writes an Ottawa resident to the London Outlook, as an humble member of one of Great Britain's colonies to draw your attention to the following instances of the customary amazing ignorance displayed by Englishmen of all classes as regards the size and condition, geographical and otherwise, of the Dominion of Canada?

The following reply, given by the commander in chief in his evidence before the royal commission on the war on the question as to the possibility of finding suitable maneuvering grounds for troops in Canada, appears in the Blue Book recently issued:

"I do not know Canada personally (says Lord Roberts). I have been told that Canada is very much covered with dense forests and that it is very difficult to find much spare ground."

Would Lord Roberts be surprised to learn that the northern half of the American continent, known as Canada, possesses an area of over 3,000,000 square miles; that the prairies of Canada extend for many thousands of miles and are as open as the fattest portions of Wimbledon commons; that there is so much "spare ground" in Canada that the present population of 5,000,000 or so is at a loss to know what to do with it?

## MOST FAMOUS OF LIGHTS.

The Eddystone Beacon a Lonesome and Dangerous Post—Costly Affair to Keep Up.

No lighthouse the world over has as wide fame among mariners as that which stands 14 miles off the coast of Land's End, says the Chicago Chronicle. It is perhaps the most celebrated in the world. It has often been used as an illustration by poets and preachers, for no other lighthouse is in such a lonesome or dangerous place and none costs so much money and trouble. There are three keepers who live there with their families, and two of them are always on duty, while the third is on the main coast enjoying a vacation. They relieve each other each month, so that none of the keepers remain on duty more than two months at a time. This change and rest is said to be absolutely necessary to preserve the nerves of the keepers. The lighthouse is 135 feet high, was erected in 1882 at a cost of \$400,000, and rises from a submerged rock. The first lighthouse was erected on this rock as long ago as 1697, but was washed away six years after and was not replaced for a long time. The second was burned down in 1775, the third stood from 1767 to 1882 and was famous in history.

## CRACKING A STEEL SAFE.

Nitroglycerin Does the Work Without Any Boring Whatever—Wonderfully Simple Operation.

"The work of cracking an old steel safe has become very simple," said an inspector of the post office department to a Washington Star reporter. "You see," he continued, "all the burglar has to do is to pour nitroglycerin in the cracks of the safe, then throw some combustible material over it, set it afire and get out of the way. In a short time the explosion occurs and the door drops out as readily as if it were made of pasteboard."

"This method of going into a safe is known to all the cracksmen, and it seldom occurs that we hear of a case of burglarizing a post office in the small towns that has not been accomplished in that manner. The old method of boring into a safe in order to insert the explosive is no longer heard of. I do not know how this practice can be stopped unless greater care is taken in watching the post offices or modern safes are provided. It is impracticable to equip all the post offices with modern safes, so that I think the simple methods of the burglars will be used for a long time to come."

## Makes No Difference to Uncle Sam.

Kaiser Wilhelm should rest assured, says the Chicago Daily News, that, if he wishes to challenge for the America's cup, Uncle Sam will find as much pleasure in taking it away from him as from anyone whom he happens just now to call to mind.

## Wanted.

We would like to ask, through the columns of your paper, if there is any person who has used Green's August Flower, for the cure of Indigestion, Dyspepsia, and Liver Trouble that has not been cured—and we also mean their results, such as sour stomach, fermentation of food, habitual constipation, nervous dyspepsia, headaches, despondent feelings, sleeplessness—in fact any trouble connected with the stomach or liver? This medicine has been sold for many years in all civilized countries, and we wish to correspond with you and send you one of our books free of cost. If you never tried August Flower, try a 25 cent bottle first. We have never known of its failing. If so, something more serious is the matter with you. The 25 cent size has just been introduced this year. Regular size 75 cents. W. T. Brooks.

G. G. GREEN, Woodbury, N. J.

(11-15-04)

## Caution!

This is not a gentle word—but when you think how liable you are not to purchase the only remedy that has had the largest sale of any medicine in the world since 1865 for the cure and treatment of Consumption and Throat and Lung troubles without losing its great popularity all these years, you will be thankful we called your attention to Boschee's German Syrup. There are so many ordinary cough remedies made by druggists and others that are cheap and good for light colds perhaps, but for severe Coughs, Bronchitis, Croup—and especially for Consumption, where there is difficult expectoration and coughing during the nights and mornings, there is nothing like German Syrup. The 25 cent size has just been introduced this year. Regular size 75 cents.—W. T. Brooks.

11-15-04

LOST.—Boy's blue overcoat on Leesburg or Paris pike. Any information will be thankfully received. SHERMAN STIVERS.

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